

Wallace says corps will continue vital training to execute the will of America

Editor's note: The following is the text of a statement by V Corps Commanding General Lt. Gen. William Wallace following Sunday's attacks in Afghanistan in retaliation for the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

Last night U.S. and coalition forces began strikes against terrorists and those who house and support them in Afghanistan.

Today, I have never been prouder to be a member of the U.S. armed forces.

As we meet here, men and women in uniform are risking their lives, far from home and their loving families. They are risking their lives to preserve the value of freedom and rid the world of those who want to destroy it through fear and terror.

I want all of you to take a good look at the men and women in uniform you see around you – American and Polish. They are a special breed, willing to sacrifice everything in defense of freedom, justice and the home they love.

Maybe it's me; maybe it's my own pride in being a soldier, but suddenly the commitment I made when I donned the Army uniform is tangible all around me. I see it in the focused, determined faces of my soldiers and I hear it when a squadron of Apaches fly over my command post.

Though we will remain focused on our



Photo by Bill Roche

V Corps Commander Lt. Gen. William Wallace addresses Polish radio and television reporters outside the corps command post Monday. Wallace made a statement and answered the journalists' questions on the U.S. response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C.

training here at Victory Strike, our thoughts and prayers are with the U.S. and coalition forces who are on the front lines, battling evil and injustice so that we may all live in peace, without fear.

At this time, our duty to the American people is to continue the essential training we are conducting here with our NATO ally, Poland. Let me say, the sympathy and support we have received from the Polish government and its people has

been keenly felt by the soldiers training here, and we have no doubt it will continue during this relentless campaign against terrorism.

V Corps, America's victory corps, is trained and ready to execute the will of our commander-in-chief and the American people.

The U.S. did not start this war, but we will finish it. We will press the fight at every turn, as long as it takes.

Visitors Day shows off V Corps to locals, allies

Polish dignitaries and journalists, as well as U.S. and allied officers and soldiers, turned out in force Oct. 8 for Victory Strike II Visitors Day at the Drawsko Pomorski Training Area.

It was a day for V Corps soldiers to brag about their capabilities. The day's events included displays and demonstrations of state-of-the-art training equipment.



A 12th Aviation Brigade Black Hawk crew chief helps a visitor try on a flight helmet.



Maj. Pilot Boguslaw Zych, chief of staff of the Polish Air Force's 8th Tactical Fighter Squadron (right) shows booklets on his unit's Su-22 aircraft to an Apache helicopter crew from the 1st Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment.



Capt. George Walter of the 7th Army Training Command's Deployable Operations Group briefs U.S. and allied officers and Polish journalists on the Digital Instrumentation Training System.



Photos by Bill Roche

Monika Wilczynska of Szczecin television station TV Polska films her news report following a press conference with Corps Commander Lt. Gen. William Wallace.



An Apache attack helicopter fires a simulated rocket at a HMMWV target during a demonstration of the Digital Instrumentation Training System staged for visitors and dignitaries.